

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00476 051109Z

15

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 AEC-05 H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02 OIC-02

OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15

TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 /079 W
----- 088801

O P 051042Z DEC 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0716

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0476

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPS ON
DECEMBER 3, 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE DECEMBER 3 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA TALKS, THE ALLIES WERE REPRESENTED BY THE BELGIAN REP, UK REP AND US REP AND THE EAST BY SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY, POLISH REP STRULAK AND GDR REP OESER. ALLIED REPS POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THEIR PROPOSAL FOR A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER AS ESTABLISHING A NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORK WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE NEGOTIATIONS TO CONCENTRATE ON THE CENTRAL ISSUE OF REACHING PARITY IN GROUND FORCES. THEY REPEATED THE OBJECTIONS TO THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL WHICH HAD BEEN ADVANCED BY ALLIED REPS IN THE NOVEMBER 26 SESSION

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00476 051109Z

AND STATED THAT THEY WERE CONTINUING TO STUDY THAT PROPOSAL.

EASTERN REPS PRESENTED ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR NOVEMBER 26 FREEZE PROPOSAL. EASTERN REPS ASKED A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WESTERN PROPOSAL FOR A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER, BUT ALSO STATED THAT A FREEZE ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER WAS NOT ENOUGH AND THAT THE EAST CONTINUED TO WANT AIR FORCES REDUCTIONS.

2. BELGIAN REP OPENED SESSION WITH ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF ALLIED PROPOSAL FOR NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER. HE SAID ALLIED PROPOSALS FOR A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON THE OVERALL AIR MANPOWER OF BOTH SIDES AND FOR A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON OVERALL GROUND FORCE MANPOWER, TAKEN TOGETHER WITH WESTERN PHASE I REDUCTION PROPOSALS, CREATED A FRAMEWORK WHICH WOULD PERMIT PARTICIPANTS TO ADDRESS THE MAJOR SOURCE OF INSTABILITY IN THE AREA, THE DISPARITY IN GROUND FORCES, WITH THE ASSURANCE THAT AIR FORCES WERE ADEQUATELY COVERED. GDR REP OESER CRITICIZED PRELIMINARY ALLIED RESPONSE TO THE FREEZE PROPOSAL AS OVERLY NEGATIVE. POLISH REP STRULAK MADE EASTERN CASE FOR THE FREEZE PROPOSAL EMPHASIZING ITS ATTRACTION FOR PUBLIC OPINION, A THEME WHICH EASTERN REPS REITERATED AT SEVERAL POINTS. STRULAK SAID EAST WAS FLEXIBLE AS TO WAYS OF FORMULATING DURATION OF FREEZE. HE CLAIMED THAT, IF ALLIES WERE, AS THEY HAD CLAIMED, ABLE TO DETECT RECENT SMALL INCREASES IN PACT FORCES, THEN IT WAS ILLOGICAL TO SAY THAT THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL WAS NOT WORKABLE BECAUSE THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON DATA.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE ALLIED PROPOSAL FOR A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER, EASTERN REPS ASKED WHETHER ALLIES HAD IN MIND SEPARATE LIMITS ON GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER IN THE AREA OR A SINGLE LIMIT. ALLIED REPS SAID QUESTIONS OF FORM WERE RESERVED FOR LATER STUDY. EASTERN REPS ASKED WHETHER PERSONNEL OF UNITS EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT WERE INCLUDED UNDER EITHER ALLIED REDUCTION OR NON-INCREASE PROPOSALS. ALLIED REPS STATED THAT ALL MANPOWER IN THE AREA EXCEPT NAVY WAS NOW COVERED BY ALLIED PROPOSALS.

4. AFTER REQUESTING A BREAK, KHLESTOV GAVE WHAT HE INDICATED WAS A PRELIMINARY EASTERN REACTION TO THE ALLIED
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00476 051109Z

NO-INCREASE PROPOSAL. HE STATED THAT FREEZE OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER WAS INADEQUATE. EAST STILL WANTED REDUCTIONS OF AIR FORCES. IN FURTHER DISCUSSION, KHLESTOV SAID EAST WAS FLEXIBLE AS TO THE FORM OF EASTERN FREEZE COMMITMENT. IN REPLY TO QUESTION FROM ALLIED REPS, KHLESTOV STATED THAT THE SENTENCE IN EASTERN DRAFT OF JOINT DECLARATION ON FREEZE, WHICH SAYS THAT PARTICIPANTS WOULD TAKE NO ACTIONS WHICH WOULD DAMAGE PROSPECT OF AGREEMENT REFERRED SOLELY TO LIMITATION

ON MANPOWER.

5. IT WAS AGREED TO HOLD NEXT SESSION DECEMBER 10.

END SUMMARY.

REMAINDER OF REPORT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FORCE & TROOP LEVELS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MBFRV00476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740353-0050
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741258/aaaabxnu.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPS ON DECEMBER 3, 1974
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005